

MINUTES – KOPPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

October 15, 2024 – 6:00 PM

Koppel Fire Hall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor – Athena Pangikas-Miller

President – Tom Sobona

Vice President – Jeff Dengler

Anna Marie Plavecsky

Brett Plavecsky

Susan Krawchyk

Rich Serge

Suzanne Broge

Joe Budicak – Solicitor

Police - Chief Warren and Sergeant Squicquero

GUESTS PRESENT

Dave Plavecsky, Tim Brewer, Skye Cider, Carol Shirilla, Michael Peters, JoAnn Serge, Josh Konecheck

MOTIONS

- A motion was made to accept the September 17th Council Meeting minutes and the October 1st Working Meeting minutes. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to approve the payment of bills from the General Fund. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to approve the payment of bills from the Fire Dept. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to tentatively approve the implementation of policies and procedures for the body-worn and in-car cameras if the Police Dept is awarded the grant for body cameras. All in favor and all approved.
- A motion was made to hire Mike Edmond for some part-time maintenance help. All in favor and all approved.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

- One complaint with animals getting into garbage – will take care of this week. The issue is they should be using garbage cans to eliminate the problem.
- Most lawns are cut.
- Sergeant Squicquero is looking for a Deputy Emergency Manager. This position needs to take some training.

POLICE REPORT

- The citation report was handed out.
- The Police Dept was not given a heads up when construction started. The Chief will talk to them to see if they could stop work during Halloween.
- Chief Warren is still working on getting his weigh masters certificate.
- Sergeant Squicquero said he would like to have an event and give firearms training to the public. Part of it could be in the classroom and part of it on the range. We could open it up to other communities. More discussion to follow.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- A preliminary hearing for the former Fire Chief, Devon Price, was continued until November 19th on the grounds that he pay back the full amount of \$6100 for a reduction in charges. If he does not pay the money back in full by the 19th, he will be on probation for 2 years and will be charged as a felon.

SOLICITOR REPORT

- Beaver County is putting the property that was demolished on 5th Avenue up for a judicial tax sale.
- The owner of a nuisance property appealed a citation which didn't get approved or denied, it just got thrown back. A new hearing was going to be scheduled but the judge wanted to have a pre-trial conference. Solicitor Budicak said that would be a waste of time so he sent a motion to the judge to withdraw the citation. Next steps will be determined.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Council members to meet Tuesday, 22nd to review the following events and figure out details:
 - The Koppel Fall Community Day on November 2nd. Dinner will be provided along with food distribution.
 - The Koppel Park ribbon cutting ceremony on October 26th from 6-8 pm. Refreshments and a game of "Catch the Cops" for local children will follow.
 - Chief Warren will be at the Spooky Jail for Halloween again this year.
 - Trick or Treat on Thursday, October 31st from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. A parade is scheduled for 6:00 PM. Whoever wants to participate in the parade can meet at the Borough building on 6th Avenue by 5:45 PM to line up. After the parade, trick or treat can begin.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

- There are two work orders in for Penn Power to fix the street lights....one from last spring and the current one. Councilman Plavecsky is going to reach out to Penn Power about finally getting them fixed.
- Jim Krawczyk offered to do maintenance such as oil changes, etc. on all the vehicles.

ENGINEER REPORT – No report

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- The grotto near the Borough building is still a work in progress.
- The Working Meeting will mainly be for making final decisions on the 2025 budget meeting.

Many thanks to Push BC for their generous donation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm